R E M A R K S

The Examiner rejected previous claim 40 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as indefinite. There is no corresponding dependent claim to previous claim 40. Therefore this objection is moot.

The Examiner rejected claims 27-52 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by Wu.

New claim 53 distinguishes over Wu at least by first reciting a method for authenticating a service computer for connection to a printer or copying system to be serviced and wherein the service computer is connected with an authentication server which provides key data to the service computer providing access rights defined by the key data of the service computer so that if access is authorized, the service computer services the printer according to the access rights. Applicant's drawing Fig. 1 shows the service computer 14 and the authentication server 16, and Fig. 3 shows the service computer 14 with the key 12 servicing the printer or copier 40. In summary, three units are claimed, the service computer 14, the authorization server 16, and the printer 40. The Examiner is principally relying on Fig. 5 of Wu showing a sender, a trusted server, a receiver, and a printer. It is not clear how the Examiner would apply Fig. 5 to Applicant's new claim 53. But regardless of how the Examiner applies Fig. 5 of Wu, claim 53 readily distinguishes.

First, in Wu there is no service computer. Rather, the sender sends a document to the trusted server, the trusted server sends the encrypted document to the receiver, and the receiver then sends the document to the printer for printing. There is no service computer of any kind for servicing a printer and therefore the reference is not relevant.

Secondly, in Wu as explained, for example, at column 13, paragraphs 360 through column 14, paragraph 368, nowhere is there any mention of access rights for servicing in connection with key data. Rather the only decision to be made is whether or not the receiver is going to be allowed to view a document and whether or not the receiver can print the document or just view the document. This has nothing to do with access rights for servicing a printer. The reference is thus also not relevant for this reason also.

Claim 53 further distinguishes by reciting the authentication server generating a transaction information which is delivered to the service computer, the service computer then generating first data by using the transaction information, the first data including a hardware identifier and then transmitting that first data to the authentication server. The authentication server then generates the key data depending on that first data which is then sent back to the service computer, the key data then being used by the service computer when contacting the printer with the determined access rights. But Wu only has a session key which is generated by the sender and sent to the trusted server which also has a receiver's ID. But this is not a disclosure of the above recited steps in claim 53. Claim 53 readily distinguishes. For example, there is no first data generated by the service computer to the authentication server which then receives key data back. There is only a session key sent by the sender to the server which has stored an ID key for a particular receiver.
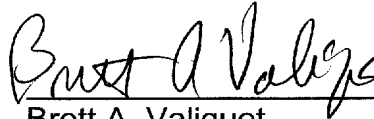
Dependent claims 54-66 distinguish at least for the reasons noted with respect to claim 53 and also by reciting additional features not suggested.

Also the independent system claim 67 distinguishes at least for the reasons noted with respect to method claim 53.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 501519.

Respectfully submitted,

(Reg.No.27,841)

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